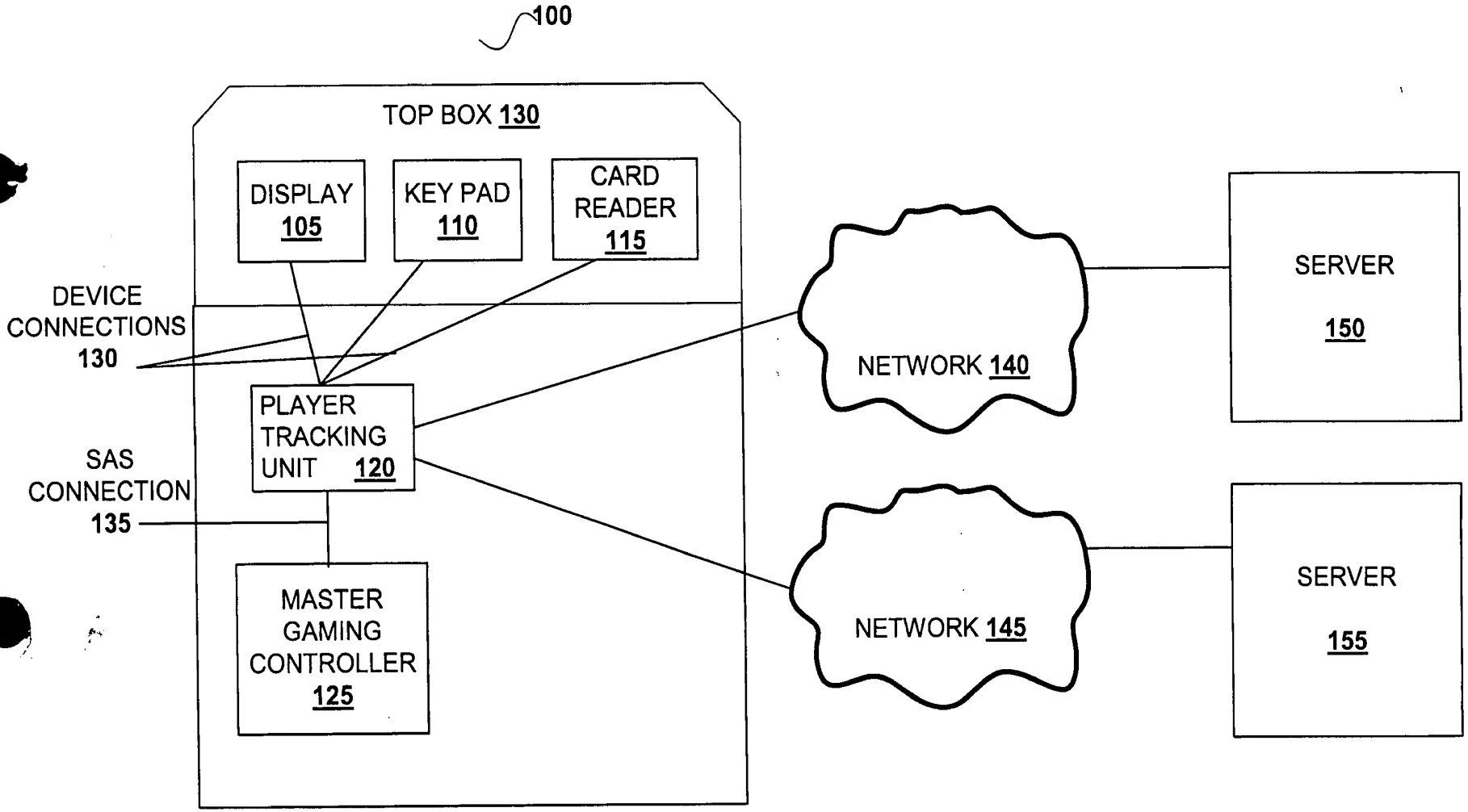
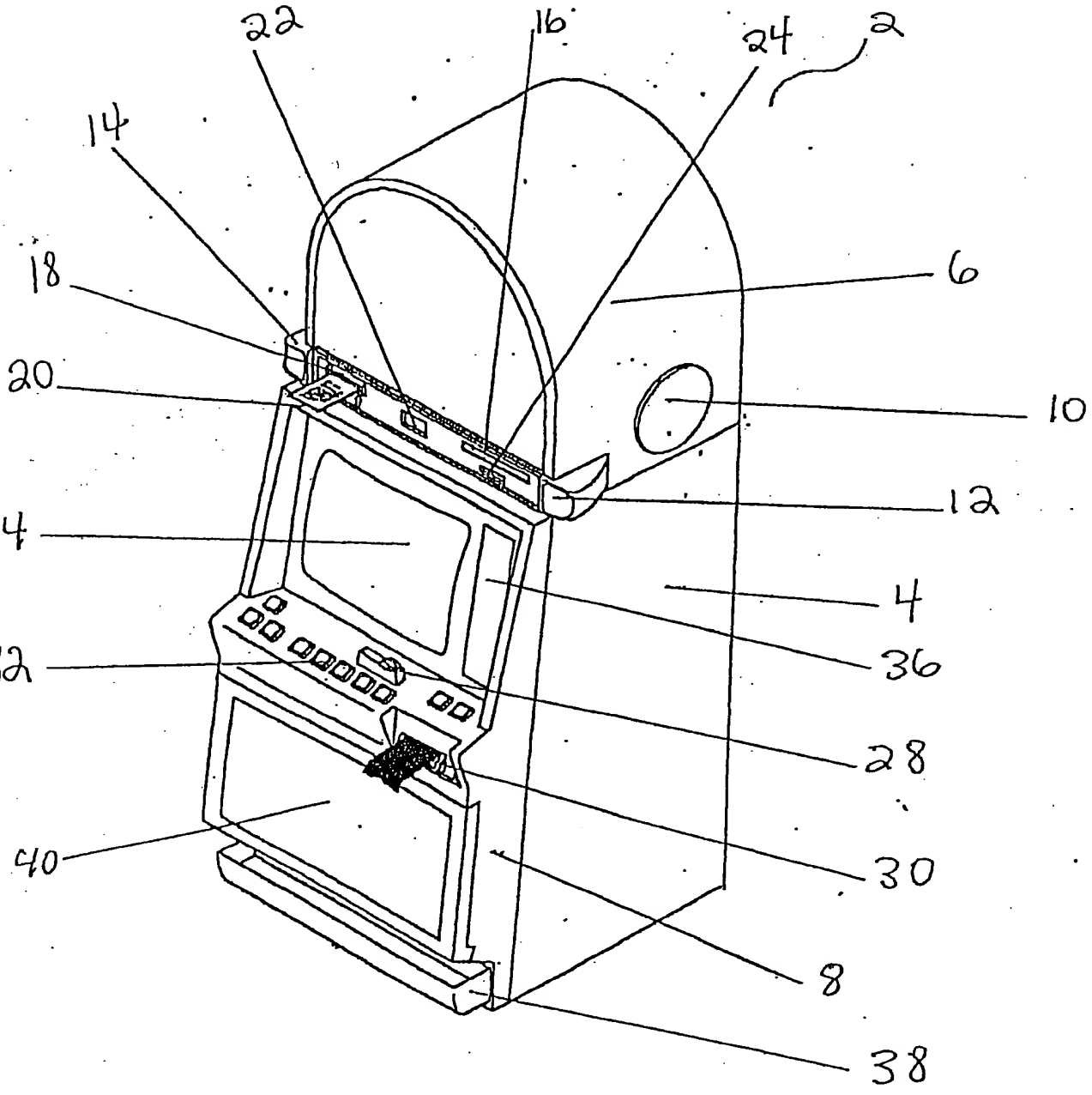
FIGURE 1



PRIOR ART

0964192 .061606

Fig. 2



08780 36T4960

FIGURE 3

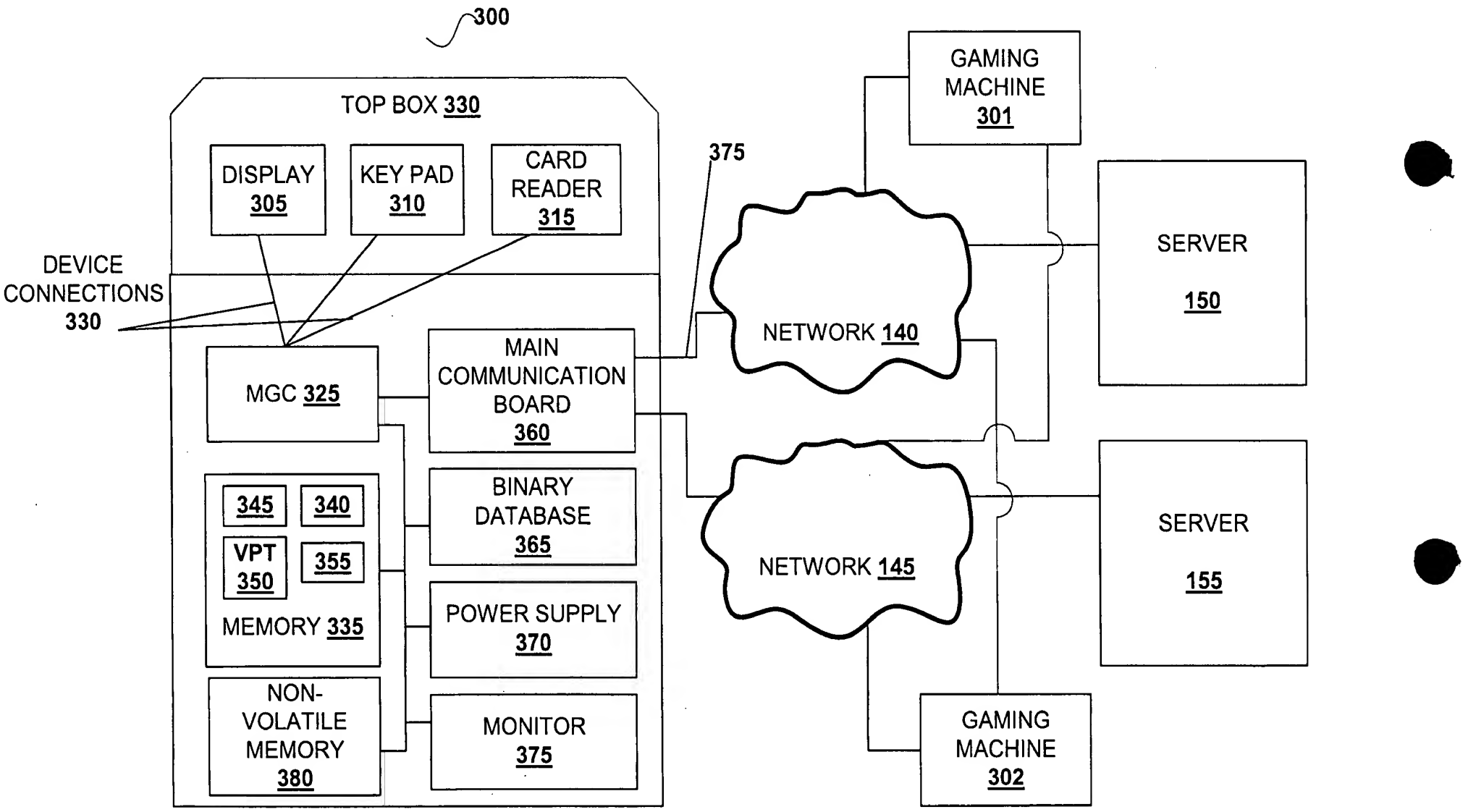


FIGURE 4

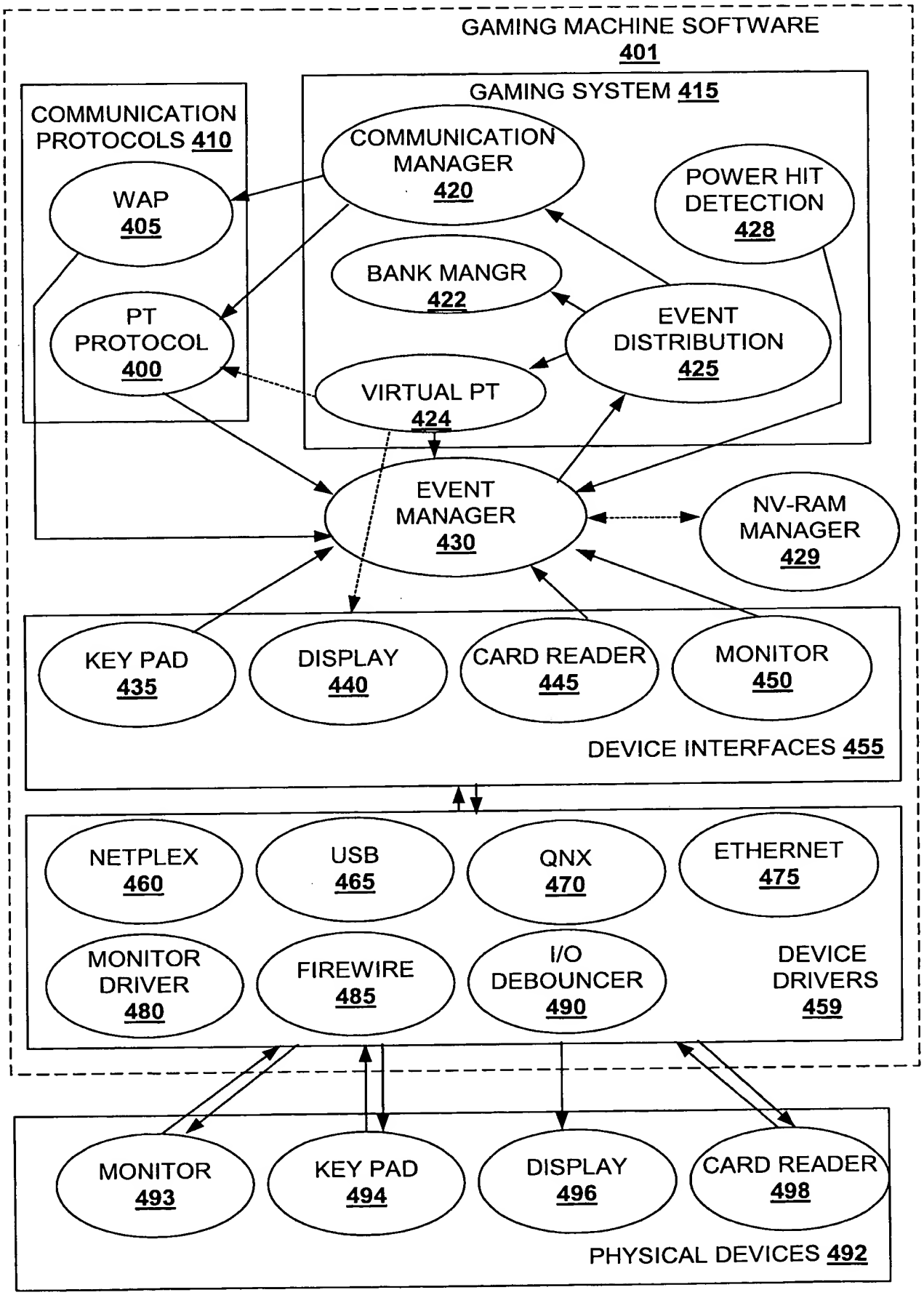

GAMING MACHINE SOFTWARE
401
COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS 410
WAP
405
PT PROTOCOL
400
GAMING SYSTEM 415
COMMUNICATION MANAGER
420
POWER HIT DETECTION
428
BANK MANGR
422
EVENT DISTRIBUTION
425
VIRTUAL PT
424
EVENT MANAGER
430
NV-RAM MANAGER
429
KEY PAD
435
DISPLAY
440
CARD READER
445
MONITOR
450
DEVICE INTERFACES 455
NETPLEX
460
USB
465
QNX
470
ETHERNET
475
MONITOR DRIVER
480
FIREWIRE
485
I/O DEBOUNCER
490
DEVICE DRIVERS
459
MONITOR
493
KEY PAD
494
DISPLAY
496
CARD READER
498
PHYSICAL DEVICES 492

FIGURE 5

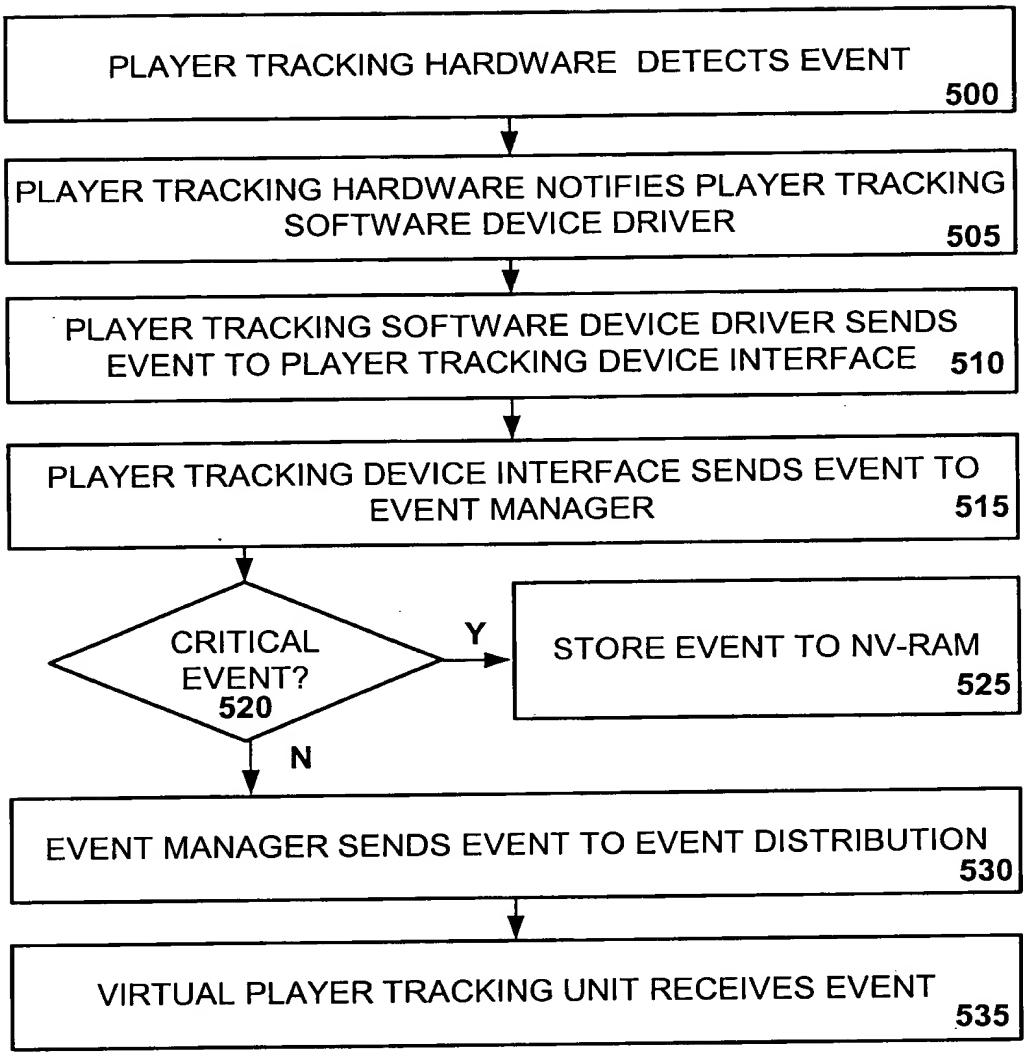

PLAYER TRACKING HARDWARE DETECTS EVENT
500
PLAYER TRACKING HARDWARE NOTIFIES PLAYER TRACKING SOFTWARE DEVICE DRIVER
505
PLAYER TRACKING SOFTWARE DEVICE DRIVER SENDS EVENT TO PLAYER TRACKING DEVICE INTERFACE
510
PLAYER TRACKING DEVICE INTERFACE SENDS EVENT TO EVENT MANAGER
515
CRITICAL EVENT?
520
Y
STORE EVENT TO NV-RAM
525
N
EVENT MANAGER SENDS EVENT TO EVENT DISTRIBUTION
530
VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING UNIT RECEIVES EVENT
535

FIGURE 6

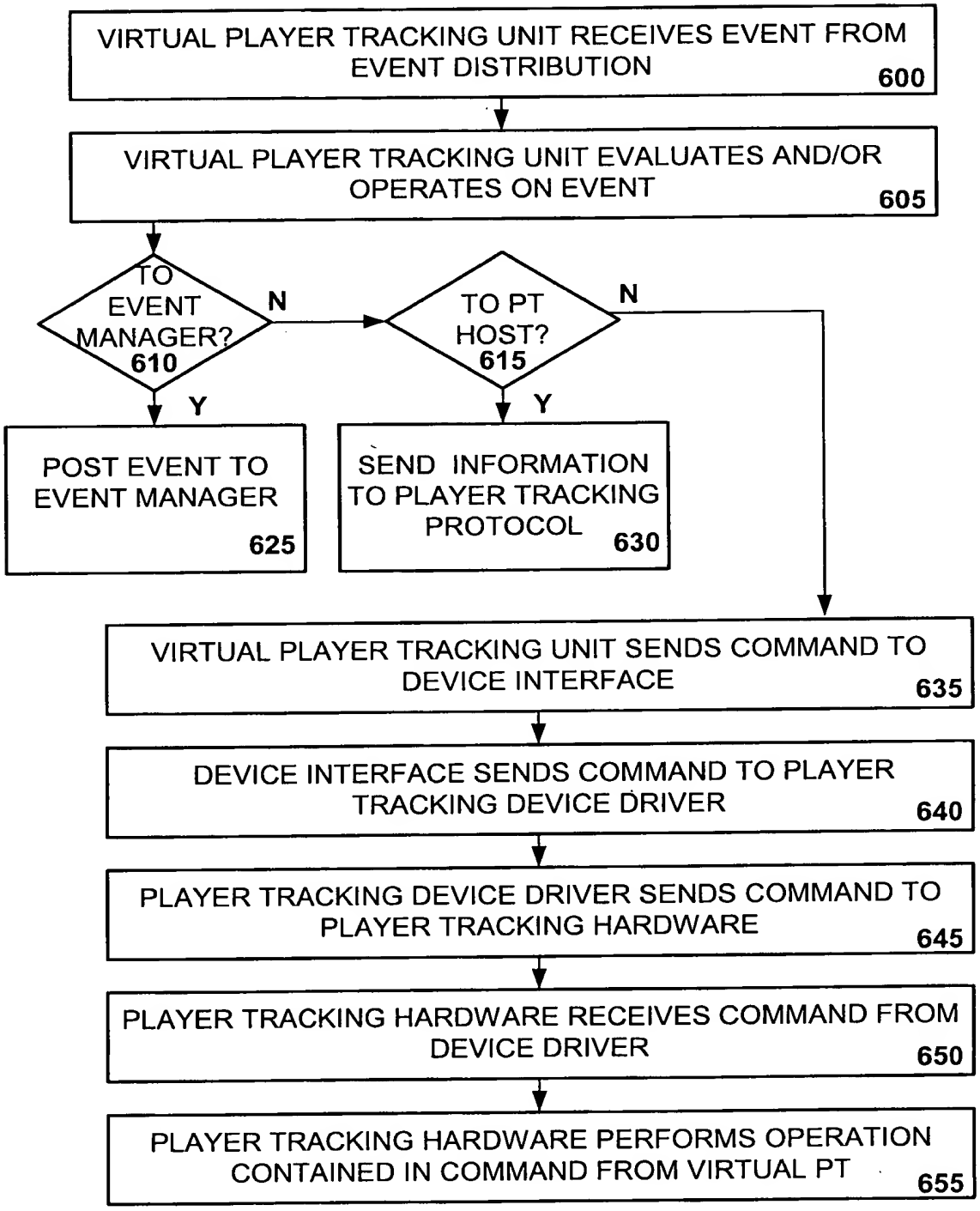
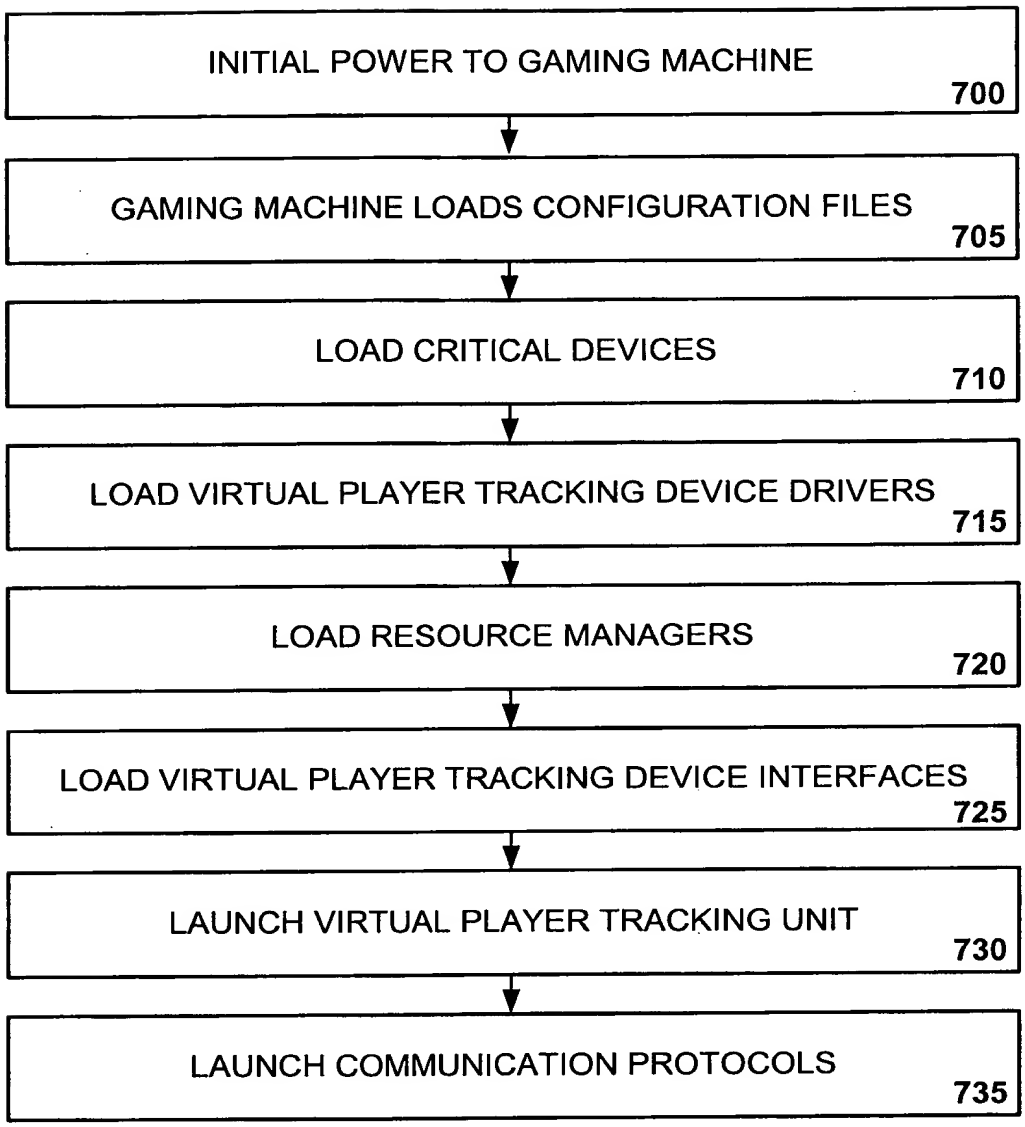

VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING UNIT RECEIVES EVENT FROM EVENT DISTRIBUTION
600
VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING UNIT EVALUATES AND/OR OPERATES ON EVENT
605
TO EVENT MANAGER?
610
N
TO PT HOST?
615
N
Y
Y
POST EVENT TO EVENT MANAGER
625
SEND INFORMATION TO PLAYER TRACKING PROTOCOL
630
VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING UNIT SENDS COMMAND TO DEVICE INTERFACE
635
DEVICE INTERFACE SENDS COMMAND TO PLAYER TRACKING DEVICE DRIVER
640
PLAYER TRACKING DEVICE DRIVER SENDS COMMAND TO PLAYER TRACKING HARDWARE
645
PLAYER TRACKING HARDWARE RECEIVES COMMAND FROM DEVICE DRIVER
650
PLAYER TRACKING HARDWARE PERFORMS OPERATION CONTAINED IN COMMAND FROM VIRTUAL PT
655

FIGURE 7


INITIAL POWER TO GAMING MACHINE
700
GAMING MACHINE LOADS CONFIGURATION FILES
705
LOAD CRITICAL DEVICES
710
LOAD VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING DEVICE DRIVERS
715
LOAD RESOURCE MANAGERS
720
LOAD VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING DEVICE INTERFACES
725
LAUNCH VIRTUAL PLAYER TRACKING UNIT
730
LAUNCH COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS
735